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FIELD'S SEED SENSE

"FOR THE MAN BEHIND THE HOE"

Vol. 5

Shenandoah, Iowa, November, 1917

No. 9

Printed and Published in the Private Printshop of the Henry Field Seed Co., Shenandoah, Iowa



Cutting Down the H. C. of L. With Sorghum On Our Trial Grounds

The cost of sugar isn't worrying us seedhouse folks just now for we all have an abundant supply of "long sweetenin'"—old fashioned sorghum molasses—grown on our own grounds. The picture will give you a good idea of how it looks growing, but I have fattened up some since I started eating it.

It happened this way: Last spring a customer in Wisconsin sent me as a sample about a pound of an early strain of Amber Cane that he had been growing for years. I bought what seed he had to spare and sold it out, but I kept the sample, and just as a joke I told the boys I was going to plant it and raise enough molasses to feed us all winter. And I pretty near did it too.

I put the seed in with a garden drill as thin as I could get it, in rows 3 ft. apart, and covered a trifle over $\frac{1}{2}$ acre with it. It was on ordinary good corn ground and got good care. In Sept. we cut it and hauled it to an old fashioned sorghum mill at Squire Moody's over on Walnut Creek. There was over 8 tons of stalks, cut and trimmed, and it made 110 gal. of the finest syrup you ever saw. We divided it up among the seedhouse folks and there was enough for at least part of the winter for all of us.

And besides we got 20 bu. of seed. And all of this was made from one pound of seed on a half^{tr} acre of common Iowa land, with just common good farming care.

And here's something else I wasn't going to tell you at first. In order to get the seed drilled thinnd enough I mixed radish seed with it in the hopper about half and half. The radishes made uncommon^p well and being thin in the row were extra fine. The market gardeners here had lost all of theirs wit^h the flea beetles, and one of them paid us a fancy price for our half acre, and pulled them himself. T all^l radishes bought us enough to pay the entire cost of making the cane crop.

Now call it a fish story if you want to, but I've got the molasses to show for it anyway—or hing^h it. F.



A Field of Mountain Danvers Onion Seed Growing for Us in Colorado at 7600 ft. Altitude.

We have onion seed grown in a number of different parts of the country, but Mountain Danvers is always grown where it originated up in the mountains of Colorado. The crop is short this year and what there is will not be enough to go around. We could sell every pound of it at a fancy price to speculators right there in the valley where it was grown and is best known, but I am going to save it for my own trade and make it go as far as possible.

Onion seed of all varieties is a short crop as the high price of onions last spring tempted everyone to sell them and plant less for seed. We are fortunate, however, in having very heavy contracts and we will be able to take care of our people all right—if they order early. We will announce prices next month and my advice is to buy your seed then.

How to Grow Big Spanish Onions

The big Spanish onions are the Prizetaker variety and generally grown from plants or sets. I like sets the best. With me they have proved earlier, cheaper and less work than the plants, and more profitable than growing from seed drilled direct in the field, as the onions were earlier, larger, made better yield and brought a better price.

In my own garden I planted a gallon of Prizetaker sets, giving them just ordinary garden culture. They made about 210 foot of row, about 5 sets to the foot. After pulling lots of green onions early, we harvested in the fall 215 pounds of big onions, most of which would run about three to the pound, an ideal size.

This figures about 700 bushels per acre, which is very profitable. You can do nearly the same thing with other varieties, but I like Prizetaker the best, as they grow very large. It has been hard to get Prizetaker sets in the past, as they do not keep well as sets ordinarily, but we find that the mountain-grown Prizetaker sets will keep fine and we have 400 bushel of them this year.

Special Offer of Onion Sets For Fall Delivery

For shipment in October and November, we will make a special price of \$4 per bushel or \$1 per peck, for the genuine mountain-grown sets of Prizetaker or other varieties. This is not prepaid, and is for fall only. Spring prices higher.

Order Onion Sets Now

We have just received a car of Mountain Grown onion sets from our Colorado grower and can fill orders for fall shipment. It is a good plan to get them now, as they are cheaper than in the spring and you are sure to have them on hand when you want them. These prices for fall only. Price—All varieties—Peck, \$1.00; bushel, \$4.00; net, not prepaid. Small amounts by mail, postpaid, 3 lbs. for 65c.

Good Onion Seed

"We purchased a half pound of Red Globe onion seed and a half pound Red Wethersfield onion seed of you last spring. We harvested 120 bushels of onions. Would like to keep them through the winter as the price is not very good just now. Please tell me how to keep them. I have been told it is a hard matter to keep onions."

—H. W. Cudney, Central City, Nebr

Best Corn He Ever Grew

Dear Sirs: Received your Seed Sense this A. M. which reminds me that I wanted to write you about the seed corn, Calico, I got of you this spring. I was at my farm last Monday and Tuesday while filling my silo and I have 100 tons of the richest ensilage I have ever put up and the balance of my corn will average 12 inches in length. I was told the seed would not produce well the first year, but I have nothing to complain about for my corn is the best I have ever grown."

—C. E. Kirkpatrick, Anna, Ill.



Some Young Illinois Gardeners

"I am sending you a picture of my children and some of their pumpkins. The garden was fine."
Paul Reetz, Bradford, Ill.

Redhead Tomatoes a Big Success

Gentlemen: When a "Rainbow Chaser" is finally rewarded for all of his previous foolishness, by discovering a "Specialty" that comes up to every claim made for it by the introducer, he ought to show his appreciation by letting a skeptical public hear of it.

The twelve plants of the Redhead Tomatoes shipped to my address, about May 10th, were set out in my garden almost a month later than 300 plants of the Earliana, Pink June, and New Stone, of a local greenhouse, and showed ripe fruit as early as any of the Earliana plants, under no more favorable circumstances of soil or of care, thus establishing a record for earliness.

While the first pickings of fruit were small in size, they gradually increased in size, and quality, and were fairly loaded down with tomatoes in October, at the time of first killing frost.

Fully as prolific, perfect in shape and color, as handsome and averaging almost as large as the Newstone, which gave no ripe fruit until the latter part of August.

Fully 75 per cent of my next seasons' planting will be of the Redhead, as early tomatoes brought 11c per pound here, while later fruit brought only 2c per pound.

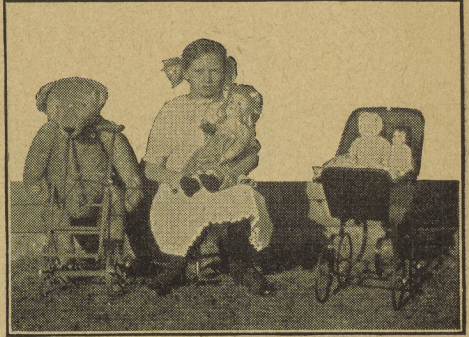
Yours very truly,

—Otto Greef, Pittsburg, Kans

A Well Satisfied Customer

"Dear Sir: I received the seed last Spring, all right; also 2 dozen Everbearing Strawberries. They grew nicely until the drouth, but I have a nice bed for next year. The envelope of seed for children I planted one striped seed in corner of flower bed, but did not know what it was. Grew up a large sunflower, tall above the eaves of the house, and the crown of seed was 45 inches around. Had nearly 4 teacups of seed, and so many admired it and asked for seed. Some went to Colorado. The few cucumber seed I planted, one hill raised one gallon of pickles, after eating a great many. The pea seed was especially fine; the Alaska raised so many after a family of 7 eating all they could, put up 4 quarts. I like your seed very much. The best I have ever used. Wishing you success I am,
Yours truly,

—M. E. Hawkins, Western, Mo.



An Iowa Girl and Her Playmates

"Dear Sir: I received your package of various kinds of seeds.

I planted them, and have a very fine garden. Papa buys all of his seed from you and wouldn't buy any other kind.

I am sending you one of my pictures, and my playthings".
Herman Anderson, Rt 4 Mt. Agr, Iowa.

Likes the Daisy Musk Melon

"Dear Mr. Henry Field: Seed Sense is at hand again, and I suppose you are holding your breath to hear of the success I had with your Daisy Musk Melons. I planted the seed on good ground; they grew fine until they began to bloom and then something ate off the ends of the vines. The gardener worked hard to keep the weeds down, but I was obliged to gather up my munitions of warfare (steel traps) and I caught them—rats and grizzled gray squirrels. I don't know which I caught the most of—I quit keeping count. They left me only a few, but I think they were fine. Now, I had another patch of musk melons a few rods away, the Burrell's Gem, but never touched them until nearly through with the Daisies. I am going to try them again if I live. I should also like to try a few Redhead tomatoes.

Yours very truly,

—David Gray, Beatrice, Nebraska."

Poultry Corn

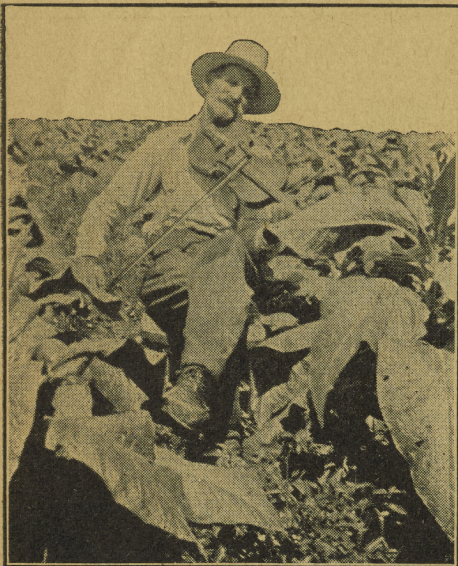
"Dear Sir: I am going to write you a few lines to tell you that the Poultry corn is all right. The chickens eat it like corn. The birds like it too. Though we are old and the children gone and are in homes of their own, we enjoyed the conglomeration package as well as the children and thank you for all, for Field's Seeds grow."
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Van Deventer, Hedrick, Iowa.

Tepary Beans a Success

"Last spring we got a pound of Tepary beans from you. We planted them, and although the chickens kept the vines ate down considerably, we raised better than three bushel, two bushel of which we will sell. We flailed them out with a lath, then hand picked them. They sure are the bean for the Southwest.

We certainly enjoy your "Seed Sense", and our 3 yr. old boy looks for John Henry. We keep all numbers for reference. Your seeds proved O K, and don't forget to mail us a 1918 catalog. Respectfully,
R. W. McNally, Wynoka, Okla.

(The Tepary beans made a great success in all dry-land situations, but were not a success in regions that had plenty of rain. They are a great thing for a dry country, but can't stand prosperity. H. F.



"Look at this tobacco crop that grew from the seed that came from Henry Field Seed Co. Shenandoah, Iowa. Gee! that's the kind of seed to buy." Yours truly,
W. G. Davis, P. O. Bx. 145 Moravia, Iowa.

Broom Corn Seed Wanted

If you have some honest-to-goodness good broom corn seed we would like to buy it.

We handle quite a bit of broom corn seed and would handle more if we could get pure straight seed, not mixed with other varieties.

There are several different varieties of broom corn, each one good, and each one meant for some special purpose and soil. When a man wants a particular kind he knows what he wants and ought to have it straight and pure.

That is what we want to give him, too, but it is a hard job. You see broom corn is not grown here in Iowa, but mostly in Kansas and Oklahoma, quite a long ways from here. I can't see it growing, but have to take the word of the man that grew it. Generally he tells the truth about it, but sometimes I am sorry to say he does not.

Several times I have had letters from customers to whom I had sold broomcorn seed, complaining that the seed was mixed, different varieties, or sometimes even entirely the wrong kind. Not often, but just often enough to be unpleasant. Now, if you are a grower of broom corn and have good pure seed, I want you to help me. Sell me the right kind of seed so that I can pass it along to the other man.

Write me just what you have, and what kind and how much, whether it is absolutely pure or not, and enclose a small sample of the seed. Also state what price you want for it. If I buy it I will furnish bags and pay the freight, write me about it.

If you don't have the seed yourself, but know of some one who does have good stuff.

Insuring a Good Garden

"We want a good garden this year and that is why we want your seed and I want to tell you, you gave your little son the same name as our youngest boy, John Henry."

—Mr. Henry McCoy, Rose Hill, Ia.



This shows another of our onion seed fields. Onion seed is going to be scarce this winter, but it is profitable seed to plant if it does cost pretty well.

A Good Kentucky Wonder Bean Story

"Now for a bean story. I bought 20c worth of Kentucky Wonder Bean seed of you. Dry weather came on, I got a tub full of beans and thought the vines were dead. Then August rains came, a second crop came on and I canned 36 quarts, gave away and used on the table 5 bushels and sold, to date, \$8.80 worth and the vines are still bearing and blooming and will until frost gets them. Instead of putting poles for them to run on, I saved the work by planting on inside and out of the garden fence. Yours truly,"

—Mrs. Chas. Z. Wilson, Summerfield, Kans.

Employer to Employee

Rule I.—Don't lie—it wastes my time and yours I'm sure to catch you in the end and that's the wrong end.

Rule II. Watch your work, not the clock. A long day's work makes a long day short and a day's short work makes the face long.

Rule III.—Give me more than I expect and I'll pay you more than you expect. I can afford to increase your pay if you increase my profits.

Rule IV.—You owe so much to yourself that you can't afford to owe anybody else. Keep out of debt or keep out of my shops.

Rule V.—Dishonesty is never an accident. Good men, like good women, can't see temptation when they meet it.

Rule VI.—Mind your own business and in time you'll have a business of your own to mind.

Rule VII.—Don't do anything here which hurts your self-respect. The employee who is willing to steal for me is capable of stealing from me.

Rule VIII.—It's none of my business what you do at night. But if dissipation affects what you do next day and you do half as much as I demand you'll last half as long as you hoped.

Rule IX.—Don't tell me what I'd like to hear, but what I ought to hear. I don't want a valet to my vanity, but I need one for my dollars.

Rule X.—Don't kick if I kick—if you're worth while correcting, you're worth while keeping. I don't waste time cutting specks out of rotten apples.—Exchange.

Our Hardy Montana Alfalfa

Miles City, Mont., Oct. 4th, 1917

Henry Field Seed Co., Shenandoah, Iowa.

Gentlemen:—I billed out the car of alfalfa seed to you today. I think you will find this the best carload of alfalfa seed you have ever purchased or will purchase in the near future. I used every precaution possible in loading this car to give you the very best seed we have had on hand. In my telegram I stated that we would send you approximately 1,000 pounds of Baltic. When we started loading the Baltic I found we had more good Baltic seed than I first anticipated, so am sending you 2,325 pounds instead of 1,000 pounds. I have the purity and germination sheets for practically every sack I sent you. The purity tests on the entire lot runs from 98 to 99.98 per cent. and the germination runs from 95 to 97.5 per cent. The Baltic seed sent you originally came from the Dakota Improved Seed Company of Mitchell, South Dakota. The farmer that grew this seed is one of the best and most reliable farmers in the Association. I am sending you on a separate sheet a certificate of the origin of the Grimm seed sent you.

I put in the car three sacks of our "B" grade alfalfa seed. Two of these sacks are Baltic and one Liscom. Look these sacks over and if you can use more of this kind of seed, will be glad to communicate with you regarding it. The "B" grade has more colored seed in it than the "A" grade, but you will find that it has a higher germination power than the "A" due to the fact that the seeds are not so hard.

We put in the car a total of 38,546 pounds of seed.

Thanking you for this order, I am, yours very truly, Yellowstone Valley Seed Growers Assoc.

Canned Soy Beans For Food

This year's crop of soy beans will be very large, and it is said that twice as many mills as last season will crush them in southern states, extracting the oil. The government educational campaign on soy beans as food has raised wide interest, and canners of beans are now packing mixtures of navy and soy beans flavored with pork and tomato sauce. This mixture is said to be a better balanced ration than navy beans alone. Packers are advertising such mixture and are using the soy beans in car load lots.

Sweet Clover

"Dear Sir: I have $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of sweet clover that came from the seed last spring that looks fine. It stands dry weather better than alfalfa. My alfalfa that I sowed last spring is nearly dead. If it rains soon it will save it. This has been the driest summer since 1911. Corn is a total failure. Kaffir corn is drying, but will revive and make good feed if it rains soon. I think I will pasture my sweet clover next spring until my Bermuda pasture is good and then let it make a seed crop. Sweet clover is a great crop here and is a very early pasture crop. It can be pastured about two months in the spring and then make as much seed as it would if it had not been pastured, thus making it a very valuable crop.

Yours truly," —H. A. Markham, Tuttle, Okla.



Ben Hader, Higginsville, Mo., and some of the strawberries he grew from plants he got of us.

"Hurrah For Field's Daisy!"

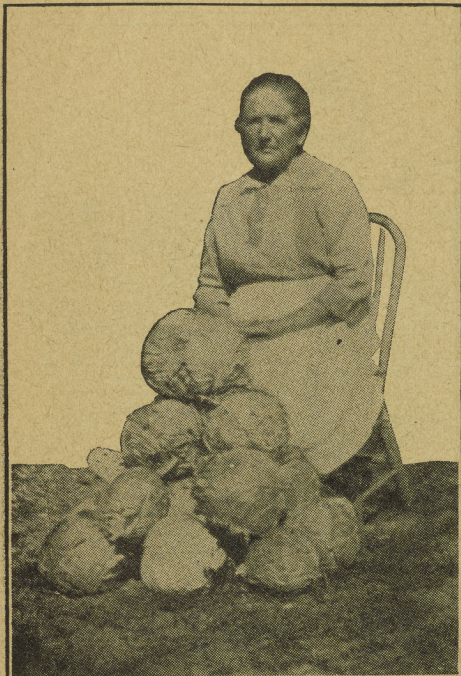
"Dear Mr. Field: Every seed we bought of you last spring met every expectation and it is due you to mention some varieties. The Norseman cabbage can't be beaten and all we want is more of it. It is like Castoria in the particular that 'children cry for it.' The Tepary beans struggled along through a very wet July but by having them on high, dry soil we got a fair crop. Other varieties did splendidly. Watermelons did well, of which my little grandson will tell you. The Field's Daisy Muskmelon you did not put strong enough and we did not get seed enough, but we are loaded for next year. They are far ahead of any muskmelon we have ever raised or eaten and will produce a crop under most any condition. We had 10 hills and got for returns about 100 nice melons. So we all say 'Hurrah for the Field Daisy.' We claim the best garden in our section and attribute it to good seed and your advice in planting. In future you may expect our orders because of fair dealing and honest seeds. Thanking you for past favors and a good trade for next year, I am

Yours respectfully," —Q. W. Bett, Knobview, Mo.

Had Good Success With Field Seeds

"Dear Mr. Field: We have never written you, so I must drop you a few lines. We use no other seed but yours. Have used them for three years and this year we bought our seed corn from you. We have surely got a good corn crop and the red 90-Day corn is certainly fine. We raised a wagon load of pumpkin and squashes from a small spot of ground, also watermelons and muskmelons. We sold over \$8.00 worth and gave away that many and ate all we could possibly hold. Everybody said they never saw as many melons from as small a patch of ground. Yours truly,"

—H. L. Clevenger, Vibbard, Mo.



"We are sending you a picture of our mother and her cabbage she raised from your seed, the Flat Dutch. A great many of them weighed $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to the head. We sure think them fine. Wouldn't raise any other kind if I can get the Flat Dutch Cabbage. We are pleased with all the seed we got from you." Mrs. Frank Alexander. Locksprings, Mo.

Likes Iowa Best, Too

"Dear Brother: Your sentiments are my sentiments, too, respecting California. I love California all-right, but I love Iowa more. I was born in Iowa and shall always be an Iowa booster. I lived at Redlands, California in 1904 and '5 and made the Catalina trip on the 'Cabrilla.' Glad you and yours had such a delightful trip and pleased to know John Henry was such a good fellow. I am enclosing some pictures of our 'boy,' she is equal to two boys sometimes. One day she climbed up onto the work table and poured mustard into the salt dish then she poured water into the sugar box. A few minues after, she went into the pard and turned on the hose and soaked the front of her dress and spoiled a new block of cement I had just made. To cap the climax she got into the paint bucket. By then, my patience was exhausted, so I punished her. Of course I did not hurt her, only her little feelings. She ran to her mother and said: 'Daddy, pank, pank, pank, pank!' at the same time demonstrating to her mother just how I did it. Don't fail to send us Seed Sense once in a while, anyway, we enjoy reading about you and yours.

If anyone should inquire about bird-houses, please mention my name. I make all kinds to order, priced right."—Benj Wilson Woodrow, Newton, Iowa.

Onion Seeds.

"Dear Mr. Field: I must tell you I have just lots of Mountain Danver onion sets from the good seed you sent me. I say good, for I believe every seed came up. Samuel Kourtzer, Baring, Oregon

The Greeley Wonder

Mr. Albert E. Hart of Summerfield, Ill., writes as follows in regard to the Greeley Wonder muskmelon:

Friend Field; If you can spare the space in the next issue of Seed Sense please tell us if the Greeley Wonder has proved its self worthy of its name. Your customer, Albert E. Hart.

It has proved its self worthy of the best name we could give it. We might have given it a better name, although I can find no particular objection to the name it now has, which it already had when we found it. It is a large melon of the very best quality and earlier than any other large melon. The flesh is yellow and fine grained. It compares nearest to perfection but earlier, and not so deeply ribbed, which is an advantage.

I stopped at Greeley this summer during melon time and about the first thing I saw was a load of these melons ready to be shipped to Denver. Although it is not classed as a shipping melon, the markets all the way from Denver to Cheyenne and all through that country are supplied with the Greeley wonder.

The train men, conductors, brakemen, engineers, firemen etc., get their supply of melons at Greeley and take the Greeley Wonder in preference to the Rocky Ford which is grown to perfection all through that section. The first thing our conductor did when he got in Greeley was to make for a man standing at the end of the depot and when he came back he had a Greeley Wonder under his arm and a very contented smile on his face.

Yes indeed the Greeley Wonder is worthy of the name it bears or any other good name for that matter. It has a very interesting history and later on we will give it in Seed Sense. Walt Pitzer.

An Interesting Book

You remember "Joe, The Book Farmer," the book that sold so well a few years ago—in fact, they are still selling like hot cakes. Well, Garrard Harris has a new one now, "The Treasure of the Land." It is one of the best books I ever read.

It tells just how to grow and can tomatoes and garden crops, and how to keep them. It tells how to grow corn, wheat and oats and how to build up the fertility of the soil and keep it fertile. It tell how to make better homes and more happy people and is so nicely told and so reasonable and so easy to understand that you just can't help but read it through when once you get started. Every library should have at least two of these books.

It's a mighty good book, full of interest facts and "pep". You will surely want to read it.

"The Treasure of the land".....\$1.35
 "Joe, The Book Farmer".....1.10
 Cloth bound; postpaid, anywhere in the United States.

Good Seeds.

"Dear Sir: The Greeley Wonder are the finest melons we ever had, and everybody that ate of them wanted to know where we got the seed, and, of course, we told them. They are a great yield. From ten plants we got fifty good big melons, and some small ones too. I am going to move from here soon, so you can send our next mail to Orofino, Idaho. We shall want some seeds and plants next spring, so look out

Yours truly, I. D. Young, Gooding, Idaho.



"Dear Sir: I am sending our baby Glenn's picture. He is 2½ yrs. old. We think he is pretty cute. We also think John Henry looks cute in his picture. We would like to get hold of him." Yours truly,

Mrs. Harve Miller, Rt. 4 Floris, Iowa.

Good Garden of Vegetables

"Dear Sirs: I am proud of a few things this year. I raised my own vegetables, fruits, grain and hay, as well as practice medicine and surgery. I wish to say that the Mo. Imp. Wonder bean is the finest thing I ever saw. Will yield 25 per cent more than Kentucky Wonder. Largest, finest flavor and best yielder I ever saw. So many on the corn stalk that they bend to the ground, and, such corn!—Cornplanter, White Elephant and Shenandoah. I am glad that I bought my seeds from Henry Field." —Dr. Ira A. Marshall, Ironton, Mo.

Finest Plants She Ever Saw

"I received the Everbearing strawberries and want to say that they are the finest plants I ever saw. They were blooming and had little green berries on them. I imagine I may be picking ripe strawberries from them soon. I hope you can send the banana squash I am ordering. They are the finest I ever saw."

—Mrs. Harvey Bowers, Hardin, Mont.

Likes Field Seed

"Will write and let you know why we didn't send for seed last year. We didn't have cash so sold eggs at the store and got seeds that way, but didn't get as good garden as we do with your seeds. So will send for seeds this year."

—Jacob Weber, Carroll, Minn.



A Tennessee Girl and Her Flowers

This is Eva May Consetious, Brotherton, Tenn., and some of her flowers. I don't know whether they are from our seeds or not but anyway they ought to be for they are certainly fine.

Sudan Grass, Sweet Clover, Etc.

"My Dear Mr. Field: I have so many things to write about that I hardly know how to commence. The first thing I want to mention is Sudan grass. To say it is a good forage crop is not doing it justice, for it is extra good. My neighbors are carried away with it. I grew it 8 feet 9 inches high and, I believe, with proper cultivation it would yield 10 tons per acre. And the sweet clover is the finest thing ever. I sowed the sample you sent me last year and it done fine. I am not get sure about alfalfa. I don't think the soil in this mountain section is suitable for it. All my garden seeds done well, except onions and I am sure I sowed them too early. They came up in fine shape. But such weather! It was fearful—snow and then hard freezing was more than they could stand. Say, did you get the sample of butter beans I sent you last spring and how did they do? Well, if this misses the junk pile I'll write again. Thanking you for the samples and for your kindness, I remain Yours very truly,"

—R. M. Bruns, Andrews, N. C.

Satisfactory, as Usual

"The seeds you sent us were very satisfactory, as usual. Everything always comes in good shape from Field's. We did not have good luck with the strawberry plants we purchased from you last spring, but that was because of the drouth. However, we are proud of results of other seeds and thank you for past favors."

—Mrs. Joseph Ammann, Milan, Kans.

Field's Seed Sense

FOR THE MAN BEHIND THE HOE

Published Monthly by the
HENRY FIELD SEED COMPANY

Field Building, Shenandoah, Iowa
And Printed in Their Own Private Printshop.

Henry Field, Editor.
E. F. Vincent, Managing Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. 25c per year or 5 years
for \$1.00.

The Clover Seed Situation

The clover seed situation is the worst I have seen for several years. Over most of the central part of the country, practically all of the great corn and clover country, there is practically no seed at all. Where the seed is to come from I don't know.

There is very little chance for imported seed and if there was any I wouldn't want it anyway.

Good, pure, bright seed is mighty scarce and it would be a wise plan for you to be looking after your supply as soon as possible. Get the seed and hide it and forget it till spring.

It is hard to say what the seed will be worth. It all depends on the demand. There is certainly not half a crop and what there is, lots of it is too poor to sell. Look at your own neighborhood. How much good seed is there in comparison to the usual amount? It's the same way everywhere. It looks to me like clover seed never had a better chance to go to \$20.00 per bu. for good, bright seed.

We've got some seed, maybe 1,000 bu., all good, bright seed, but I wish it was twice as much. We are selling a little as we go along, so as to get money to buy more, but we are not worrying nor pushing it any.

The New Catalog

The new catalog is coming on fine. We have two big presses working on it and it will be ready to mail by Jan. 1st as usual. It will be bigger and better than ever and I am sure you will enjoy it.

It will be mailed, without asking, to all of you who bought seeds or plants either last year or year before, so you will not need to write in specially for one. It will be sent to you sometime during the first week or ten days of January.

In fact, everyone who got a catalog last year, unless they have moved meanwhile, will either get a catalog or a letter asking if they care for it any longer. You see, we drop from our list the names of those who have not bought in that time, but before, so we write and ask if you care to have it continued any longer. If you really want the catalog we are glad to keep on sending it, but if you do not care for it we will, of course, stop sending it.

Meanwhile, I will print in Seed Sense next month an advance list of this year's prices on garden seeds, so that if you are in a hurry to order and do not care to wait for the new catalog, you can order from the list.

HENRY FIELD SEED CO. INCREASE HOLDINGS

Take Over the Ratekin Seed House
Buildings and Equipment.

The Henry Field Seed Co. has taken over the buildings and equipment of the Ratekin Seed House, Incorporated, and have already taken possession. This gives the Field Co. a substantial increase in plant and equipment for their rapidly growing business. The Ratekin building will be known as warehouse No. 4, and for the present will be used mostly for storage purposes. Later on a part of the seedcorn may be handled there. — *Shenandoah World Nov. 1*

Seed Beans Wanted

If any of you have any seed beans to spare, or garden beans, such as wax or string beans of the bush varieties, more than you need, send me a sample and tell me how many you have and what you want for them. They will all be needed. We can use any of the standard varieties of garden beans, but they must, of course, be pure seed of good germination.

We also need white navy beans but not western Mexican beans and we do not need pole beans, except Missouri Wonder, as the pole beans are mostly grown in California and were a good crop.

The ones we are short on are the string beans and wax beans, such as; Black Wax, Golden Wax, Wardwell's Kidney Wax and ones of that type. We are also very short on Missouri Wonder Pole Beans. If you have any seed beans to spare of varieties you think I could use, send me samples and write me about them and if I cannot use them myself I will pass them on to some other seed house. As a rule, it will not pay to ship unless you have at least half a bushel of garden beans or 5 bushels or more of the white navy beans.

Field Seeds Wanted

We are in the market for several kinds of field seeds and if you have any to sell, will be glad to have you write us about it. I have put in ads about sweet corn and Sudan in another place, but there are other things, too. We specially want Sudan seed. If you have good seed, we can pay you a good price for it.

We also want all the good, sound sweet corn we can get, either early or late, but we specially want the big, late Evergreen, if it is good germination and not mixed with other corn.

We have a good stock of red clover, mammoth clover and timothy, but will buy some more yet if quality and price are right.

Send samples of any of these, write how much you have and what you want for it and we will try and trade.

Remember on all such stuff that you have to sell, we pay the freight and furnish bags or pay you for the bags. Always mention if you would like to have us send bags and shipping tags.

Early Seeding of Alfalfa

Last month I copied an article from the *Rural New Yorker* telling about a man in Indiana who advocates the sowing of alfalfa on frozen ground in February or March, like the farmers of Ohio and Pennsylvania so often sow clover. I now print below another article from the same man telling more about his methods and the results.

It certainly sounds interesting. I half believe the man is right. I tried it myself in a small way on our trial grounds two years ago and it worked perfectly. I scattered the alfalfa seed right on top of the frozen ground, and also some near by on top of a foot of snow. This was the latter part of February. I got a perfect stand and the strongest June crop I ever saw. My advice would be to try it for yourself. Here is his own story: H. F.

UNORTHODOX SUCCESS.—For 15 years I followed the "orthodox method" of sowing Alfalfa, viz., plowed the ground, cultivated it each week for a month or two, sowed 20 pounds of seed per acre, etc., but, as it happened, I never "clipped the weeds high to kill them, and to thicken the Alfalfa," as is recommended by the Alfalfa experts. Do you cut weeds high in the garden or cornfield? Do you thicken Alfalfa by cutting its lungs out? For several years I wondered why I could not sow Alfalfa in February or March, on "honeycombed" ground, just as I, and others, had sown clover for years. Finally I tried it on St. Patrick's Day, 1913. My father said he would give me \$50 per ton for all the Alfalfa hay I would raise on this little piece of corn-stubble ground. I said, "All right; prepare to pay me at least \$150 this year." In July I was selling alfalfa hay from this seeding at \$16 per ton in the field, the buyer hauling it, and my father said he "had to go back or go broke." I have followed this method now for five years and have never failed."

THE CORN STUBBLE.—I don't break the corn stubble, but cut them with the mower at first cutting of Alfalfa, and put them up with the hay. They dry out, get shelly, if left standing, and are easy to clip off, leaving the roots or stubs in the ground. They make good bedding and manure. If stubs are broken, down they get water-soaked, and much dirt is thrown up by their roots being turned out of the ground, and, of course, they are raked up in the hay, to its detriment.

"COLD STORAGE."—The ideal way to sow Alfalfa, I think, is the Jack Frost method. "Nature prepares the finest seed bed in the world," especially if shallow cultivation has been practiced in the preceding year's crops (as it should be to preserve moisture and to keep the ground level and free from weed growth). Why plow such ground as this, thus bringing up to warmth and air and sunlight, weed seeds that are already water-soaked and ready to grow, when they never could grow if left too deep in the ground? Why "plow the ground deep and then make it "solid" again by so much useless work? Alfalfa (the kind I use) has a tap root, and it wants a good anchorage. This root does not want to strike an air pocket or a pile of cornstalks turned under by plowing.

CONSERVING MOISTURE AND KILLING WEEDS.—We are told to plow deep and cultivate often to conserve moisture and to kill all the weed seeds. Did you ever notice that clay thrown

out of a well forty feet deep would soon be covered by weeds? These weed seeds had been there for centuries, yet they grow nicely when brought to the surface. Weeds, like the poor, you "have with you always." Instead of spending time and energy trying to "kill all the weed seed by sprouting and uprooting them," thus bringing up a fresh supply at each cultivation, why not let the few grow that the winter has not killed, and then kill them by close cutting when the alfalfa buds have started nicely for a new growth of alfalfa? When you do this by winter seeding you get the benefit of all the early rains and the gentle sunshine of early spring, to enable your alfalfa to withstand summer droughts and the rigors of the first winter. You also get one or two crops of alfalfa hay, and sometimes three crops, the first year, and four crops the second year, provided your land is "inoculated" and is not sour. In the latter case a few tons of ground limestone should be scattered over the ground; and, to "inoculate," I use soil from an old successful alfalfa field. Sweet clover soil will inoculate for alfalfa, but I don't like to use it and get sweet clover mixed with my alfalfa.

LOCAL CONDITIONS.—Mr. Wilson, of New Jersey says: "If his style would succeed here, it would be a boon in these days of having it all to do yourself." Mr. Borden says: "The only question is, would this method be practical in Virginia?" Men who have farms adjoining my alfalfa fields say their land is not adapted to alfalfa. They have no faith, as a rule, in the "Jack Frost method of sowing alfalfa." Less than a week ago a man only a few miles away called me up and asked another batch of questions about alfalfa, as he frequently had done for several years. He said he has once more plowed his alfalfa up and is this time going to try fall seeding. I was rather shocked at this, seeding after we have had several frosts in Central Indiana; but today, September 20, another man told me his tenant was preparing ground to sow alfalfa yet this fall. I told him it would be all right if hard freezing weather would come and stay with us for the next six or eight months and keep his alfalfa in "cold storage" until warm weather in spring would sprout it. Why not use a little "horse sense" and wait until January to sow, at least, thus being sure of "premature" germination?

SOIL PREPARATION.—The R. N. Y. says this: "We are taught here, by the authorities, so-called, that there must be a finer preparation of the soil in order to get a stand of alfalfa and, of course, we don't want to set a lot of men crazy, or start them off on an entirely new track without having them clearly understand that the experiment is up to them, etc." I hope you will encourage your readers to try this plan of saving hard, useless work and one-half or two-thirds of the usual amount of seed, sown per acre, as Mr. Borden, of Virginia, says. Of course, Mr. Borden can break his ground now, or in November and seed on "honeycombed" ground in January or later; but he need not break it if it has been cultivated in some crop the past summer. Unless it is sod ground I prefer disking it, instead of turning it under and then having to do so much work to make a "solid seed bed;" but, why plow or disk, either, if you cultivated it all summer? Can you make it more clear of weeds by bringing up fresh weed seeds? Or can you make it firmer by rolling it?—From *The Rural New Yorker*.



"I have almost become acquainted with you through Seed Sense, and an "Old Settler of Shenandoah, and an acquaintance of yours I believe, Mr. Edgar Noble of Key-sor, Colo., is the man to whom I refer. I taught their school last year and stayed at their house. Through them, I became anxious to see Seed Sense as they. Last spring I took the enclosed picture of Mr. Noble with his dog Sport and his gun. Although far from being a Rip Van Winkle, his picture does remind me of that noted character, so I thought perhaps you would put it in a number of your little paper soon, since he is from your town, and I am sure it will be an agreeable surprise to him and his family, and I am confident you will have something appropriate to say."

Lillis Combs, Fowler, Colo.

Wants Sure Seed

"I think I struck a good seed house when I met you. Well, Henry, I do hope you will do well. Your little story from your boyhood is just fine to read and I hope the seed will always do as well as you have done in your business. I know your seed house some now but will know it better next year. I am a man that wants good seeds and also takes care of what comes from the ground. There is nothing better than to have sure seed." —Clarence Peterson, Henrietta, Minn.

Cutting Cost of Living

"Last year I bought 100 pounds of Sudan grass seed from you. I did not sow all of it, so have some left or I would order some now. You will notice by my order that I am trying to combat the high cost of living. I am going strong on poultry this year and am ordering Sterita and beet to cheapen my ration. I will also feed a and sprouted oats."

—Geo. H. Koch, Brighton, Ia.



"I am sending you a picture of my daughter Ruth Crum, and her grandfather.

We all use Field's seeds, both garden and field and think there is none better. Lots of love to Ruth Field."

Mrs. Roy C. Crum, Ingomar, Mont.

Planting Directions for Darwin Tulips

Darwin tulips have heavier foliage than other tulips and the larger size such as Antonio, Prof. Hohke, Edmee etc. should be planted 6 to 6½ inches apart, La Negra 7 inches apart each way. We plant in solid beds about a yard wide. Plant in a well drained place where water never stands.

Clay soil produces heavier bulbs and a layer of sand below the bulbs is good, but not necessary. The blooms last longer out of doors if grown in partial shade. Plant 1st size bulbs 5 to 6 in. deep according to the size. Scatter the young bulbs rather thickly over the ground about 3 or 4 in. deep. We spade our beds deeply before leveling for planting.

A mulch of leaves after ground freezes is the protection we use and we leave it on until about the third week in April when we remove part of it and leave the rest to work into the ground after the blossoming season is over.

A sprinkling of bone meal worked into the beds is good. We use either this or thoroughly decayed cow manure worked into the soil below the bulbs with a layer of clean earth or sand between it and the bulbs. I like to use the bone one year and the manure the next, as the bone has a tendency to harden the soil and to toughen the stems, foliage, and flowers while the other fertilizer produces the opposite effect. We sometimes water the tulips once when buds form and again when flowers come into bloom.

Would Visit Seed House

"During the summer of 1916 our son visited your seed house and he has told me how very nice everything was. I surely would like to have the privilege of seeing the flowers, as no one enjoys them more than I."

—Mrs. Riley Boone, Chillicothe, Mo.

A Watermelon Suggestion

"Seedless watermelon: Cover the vine with dirt at a leaf. It will take root, after which cut the vine off from the first hill. This applies to muskmelons, gourds, pumpkins, etc."

—M. H. St. Clair, Underwood, Ind.

How Your Orders Are Checked

When I was down at the Garden Seed Department the other day I picked up a copy of "Instructions to Checkers" as written by Walt Pitzer, head of that department.

I thought they would be interesting to you as they will give you a fairly good idea of how careful we are in checking the orders after they are filled and before they are wrapped. We don't aim that any mistakes shall get through.

This is just a sample of how thoroughly we do everything here. System and care and checking and re-checking till you can't rest. Even then mistakes will sometimes get through, but not very often, and when they do we are more than ready to make them right. H. F.

Instructions to Checkers

1 In checking, watch both quantity and price. Place a blue pencil mark beside each item correctly filled and red mark beside each item incorrectly filled.

2 Note customer's instructions as to substitutions.

3 If an item is out of stock make follow up at once before checking further.

4 If an item is temporarily out, place a red check mark beside the item and set the order aside after it has been checked in the place for "temporary hold-ups."

5 If a letter accompanies the order, it must be read.

6 If all seeds in order do not go by mail, separate while checking, placing seeds to go by mail in one pan with mailing label, and seeds bag in another with order sheet.

7 After checking order, check address and routing pertaining to part filled in mail order room.

8 When an order is found with an address label, envelope or order sheet lost or misplaced, or when numbers on envelope and order sheet do not correspond, call the foreman. Checkers must not handle these orders independently.

9 Orders requiring attention, of any one, after being filled, should be marked so on envelope. If the order is completed at checking table it should be sent direct to department or person intended for, care being taken that it is not placed among orders to go to file.

10 If an order can not be filled complete and a refund is to be made, mark it so on order envelope, also the word "refund" beside the item refunded on. If a customer has overpaid and this has not been caught by the office, mark "refund overpaid," giving the amount. This to go on outside of envelope. Be sure these orders are not placed among others to go to file.

11 If a customer is short on his remittance, and this has not been caught by the office, make a note of it if it is of any consequence, sending the order to the treasurer. Make note on outside of envelope, "Due," and amount as you figure it.

12 Checker place initial on envelope and chaser slip.

13 If an order has been incorrectly filled, pass back over the table to be corrected. For each order incorrectly filled, keep tally by holding chaser slip. These to be turned in to foreman at noon and night. In making final checking, check item in blue.



I am glad to let you know about our seeds. Not a complaint to make, but the highest praise of your seeds. They certainly did do fine. The seeds all grew and as I told a neighbor of mine, some of them must have grown twice. I have had several say to me that they wanted me to send for their seeds next year.

I will close, again thanking you, I am,"

—J. A. Donner, Three Oaks, Mich.

14 In making "follow up" or back order, see that the form is filled out completely and correctly. See that the quantity and price are as stated by customer is filled out on each item. Do not detach copy until order has been checked, then place original copy with seeds to go to customer, the pink copy in envelope for files and hold white sheet to fill from later on. Each department will make their own F. U., so follow up only on items that are filled from the packet cases.

15 A two pan order must have address label and checker slip in each pan. Hand these orders to the wrapper personally so there will be no possible chance for mistake.

16 Unless customer gives permission do not substitute without a written order.

17 See that all papers pertaining to the order are taken out of pans and placed in envelope with the order sheet.

18 For further information see instructions for chasers which checkers must be familiar with.



A Fine Iowa Garden

"The enclosed picture will show you some of the Progressive Everbearing strawberries, and some of my peonies, and also a picture of myself as I work in the garden."

—Mattie Cavalier, Ames, Iowa.

Baltic Alfalfa

I have been raising Baltic alfalfa in cultivated rows since 1912, rainfall 13 inches, elevation about 3,000. Have found it very hardy, but may change to Hansen's Cossack, as an experimental plot has made a very heavy growth. There is very little alfalfa seed in this locality this season owing to the scarcity of hay."

—E. E. Klick, Miles City, Mont.

A City Gardener

"Dear Mr. Field: While not being a large purchaser, I have bought and used your seeds for the past ten years. I can truthfully say that in every instance they have been satisfactory and that I would not think of ordering from any other firm. I always tell my neighbors what good results I have from your seeds and think I am doing them a favor in doing so. Yours very truly."

—B. W. Blanchard, Des Moines, Iowa.

A Rainy Day Letter

"This is a kind of lonesome day. The four children went to school; just have the two little fellows at home and my husband is out of doors making a hay rack. It is raining and sleeting all day and sometimes it lightnings and thunders, so I will sit down and make out an order for what I want for my garden. Hope I have good luck. My husband planted 100 grains of his White Elephant corn in an old kettle, to test it. Every grain came up."

—Mrs. Fred Neumeister, Avoca, Nebr.

Thinks Redhead Tomatoes Fine

"Dear Sir: Your Redhead tomato is sure fine. They yield better than any other tomato going. We have sold them all summer, from 8c a lb. to 80c a bu. We had nearly 20 bushel engaged that we could not deliver. They took a prize at the county fair, and they took 1st Prize at the Nebraska State Fair. Yours truly,

—H. C. Buerstetta, Peru, Nebr."

A New Garden

"I have been interested in your catalog, given to me by my father, for several years, but not until now has it been possible for me to send you an order, because this is the first time we have had a garden 'all our own.' It will be somewhat of an experiment and a side issue as well, but we are hoping for results anyway. I read the catalog clear through and it made me wish I had a farm instead of a miserable little lot. My (brand new) husband thinks I'm rather foolish to order from you when 'we can get everything right here in the store,' but I believe he will change his mind later."

—Mrs. Geo. Biers, Valdez, Colo

186 Bushels of Rye From 8 acres

"Friend Field: If you remember, I ordered \$20.00 worth of seed rye from you last fall. Well, all of these Missourians said I would not get any rye because it was wrong to get seed from so far north, but listen, I just threshed my piece of 8 acres and got by weight, 186 bu., or 23½ bu. per acre, and dandy nice rye too. I got my seed corn from you and, as usual, that was wrong too, but I wish you could see my corn and my neighbors' all around me. I will let you know about it later on."

—A. G. Fisher, Harwood, Mo.

Pleased With Peonies

"My Dear Mr. Field: I must write a few words to say how much pleased I am with the peonies I got from you a few years ago. They have never bloomed till this year, but they were a most beautiful sight for several weeks and I am delighted with them."

Yours sincerely,

—H. M. Weld, Jamaica, Plain, Mass.

Fine Cauliflower in Montana

"Please find enclosed an order for seeds. You may think it out of season, but vegetables grow fast here. Last year I put cauliflower seed in the ground the 14th of May and I raised the finest cauliflower heads that I ever saw and that's saying something, because I have seen some good ones. They beat anything that was shipped in here."

—W. R. Farley, Trego, Mont.

From Far Off South Carolina

"I am sending you an order. Would make it larger if I only had the ground to plant the seed in. I tried your seeds last year and found them good. I like to see your catalog every year and read about all the nice things you grow. Glad to see the pictures of Ruth and Georgia and the baby. I have just returned from a visit to Louisiana. Was there visiting my uncle, J. P. Spearman. I have filled out an introduction blank and will be glad to have you send your catalog to my uncle. He lives on a nice farm, has a big garden and raises lots of his own seed. Yet he may find something in your catalog that he wants. Hope your business is prospering. I am your friend and well wisher and I hope you may have continued success."

—Mrs. D. C. Kyle, Greenville, So. Carolina.

The Best Luck

"I planted your Banner seed collection. Altogether this year, I never had better luck. I am keeping the picture of the two little girls. I have a good match for Ruth. I will send her picture and the boy's before long. The boys feel rich with the watch and knife they got from you."

—Mrs. C. H. Keller, Lake Springs, Wyo.



An Iowa Boy and His Peanuts

This Robert Leach, Atlantic, Iowa, and some of his garden products. He is a real gardener and does the work himself and of course is proud of it.

Planted the Conglomeration Seed

"Dear Sir: You offered a prize to the boys and girls who would send you a letter this fall, telling of the best results obtained from the seed of the Conglomeration package. Now, I am too old a boy to try for a prize, in fact, I don't want any, but I have just got to tell you of my luck with it. When that confounded Conglomeration package came I carefully sorted the seeds, put the flower seeds in one pile and the vegetable seeds in another. Of course, I planted the flower seed in the front yard and the vegetable seeds in the garden, but say! I wish you could have been here when things came up. I bet that 'Burbank' got hold of that package before I did and juggled it once or twice, for I had flowers growing in the garden and we were eating vegetables out of the front yard. If you could have seen it, you would have felt like the boy who was walking up the street with his mother and they saw a man approaching them, who was not only knock-kneed and bow-legged, but was cross-eyed as well. After passing him the boy said, 'Mamma, did God make that man?' 'Yes, Darling.' was the answer. 'Well,' replied the boy, 'I bet He had a good laugh when He was done.'

There were three pumpkin seeds in the bunch. I could'n't tell they were pumpkin seed. I planted them and on the vines there are seventeen of the largest pumpkins I ever saw. Some are a golden yellow, while the others are a cream color and speckled, look just about like a light colored darkey would if he was 'skeered.' I am going to send you a quarter with this letter and I want you to send me Seed Sense for a year, for if any one needs Seed Sense, it is Yours respectfully,"

—L. A. Reber, Palmyra, Mo

The Fourth Order

"This is the fourth order I have sent you this year. Every time Seed Sense comes I see an article that reminds me of something I need or want to give a trial. I thank you for the prompt service rendered."

—E. T. Barrick, Royal, Nebr.



"I am sending you my children's pictures. I thank you very much for the pictures you sent. Please send me a price list of tulips as I want to get some this fall.

The girls like to see the little children's pictures in the Seed Sense. Tell John Henry he is sure a big boy. Ruby weighed just 20 lbs. when she was a year old."

Mrs. Grace Petty, Stanberry, Mo.

Soy Beans from the Conglomeration

"Dear Sir: Enclosed you will find some seed that we wish to know the name of, and also want to know the value of them. Are they for feed, for stock or people? They were in a mixed package of seed that you sent me last spring. I planted them, and all through the drouth this summer when everything else in the garden was burnt up they did not even wilt. My husband took some of them to the Chamber of Commerce, and they thought they were soy bean, but did not know. Please let me know soon. As ever,"

—Mrs. Luella Hunter, Marquille, Tex."

Had Good Success With Field Seeds

I sure had fine luck with all my seed I purchased from you, had a lovely garden, nearly every seed came up. It pays a person to buy good seed if they want good stands the first planting. We have just lived out of the garden entirely this summer. There are four of us in the family. We will always have a good word for you and your seed. Expect a large order from me in the spring."

—Mrs. E. G. Freeman, DeSoto, Kans.

Threshed Three Bushel of Tepary Beans

"I write to inquire of you what to do for my beans and peas to keep weevil out. I have quite a lot and would appreciate your answer on same. I planted one pound of Tepary beans and threshed three bushel. Now if you will tell me how to keep them, I will favor you with a nice order next spring, as I mean to buy my seed of the H. F. Seed Co. Thanking you in advance, I am

Respectfully,"

—Mrs. Ira B. Powell, Star Rt., Box 51, Monette, Ark.



"Dear Sir: Here we are, Missouri Family. Dear lovers of Field's Baby Golden Popcorn. Iva, age 13; Mattie, age 11; Osborn, age 9; Edna, age 7; Esther, age 5, and there is Chester the baby, age 2. There wasn't room for him. We will send the baby's later on G. F. Nowack, Rt. 3 Bx. 34 Owensville, Mo

Prefers Yellow Sweet Clover

"Mr. Field: I have had sweet clover on my farm for 7 years and have had both kinds all the time. For most purposes the yellow is the best. First, the yellow makes more seed and gets ripe evenly. Second, it makes more hay than the white and for plowing under, yellow is the only kind. The white is harder to plow as the root is bigger. The man that plows ^{under white} sweet clover will sure have his hands full.

"Some claim sweet clover bloats cattle, but I have had no trouble with mine and have turned them out wet or dry. There are three kinds of yellow. One that crawls on the ground and one that grows about 18 inches high and one that grows about as high as the white. I have the big yellow kind and it will all be like the sample I send you."

—Gust Martin, Iowa.

We are getting more and more favorable to the yellow sweet clover and we are getting lots of letters like that from Mr. Martin above. We are also having an increasing demand for the seed and selling a surprising amount of it. I believe it will soon catch up with the white.

We bought Mr. Martin's crop of seed and have it for sale. It is fine seed and I know will please you. We also have several other lots, some Iowa grown and some Colorado grown. The San Luis valley in Colorado uses the yellow exclusively. H. F.

SWEET CORN WANTED.—We are in the market for good seed sweet corn, especially the big Evergreen variety. Must be bright and sound and of good purity. If you have any to sell, send sample, state how much you have and what you want for it.

—HENRY FIELD SEED COMPANY.

SUDAN WANTED.—We need more Sudan seed than we have. If you have any to sell, please send sample, state amount you have and what you want for it. We can not use it unless it is of guaranteed purity and free from any mixture with Johnson grass or cane. If your seed is good we will pay you all it is worth.

—HENRY FIELD SEED COMPANY.

Annual White Sweet Clover

I heard recently that the Iowa State College had discovered an annual strain of the big white sweet clover that would grow nearly as big in one year as the ordinary biennial sort does in two years. It seems they found a few plants in a big field of sweet clover that shot up and grew tall, bloomed and made seed the first year—going through the whole two year's work in one year. This would be valuable as giving quick action on a crop to plow under for fertility.

I wrote them about it and asked for some of the seed. Here is their answer. It was very interesting to me, and I am sure will be to you, H. F.

Ames, Iowa, October 23.

Henry Field Seed Company,
Shenandoah, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Field:

Replying to yours of the 20th regarding the annual white clover, I really believe that the clover offers great possibilities, especially as a green manure crop but also for hay and pasture. I never saw or dreamed of anything like it in the way of a clover. We, of course, have not a very large amount of seed as yet. I found 22 of these plants last year, but only got two or three seeds from some of them, and only a small amount of seed from any. These were planted in separate rows in the field this year, where they reproduced with almost perfect uniformity the characteristics of the different parent plants. Some of the parent plants from which seed was saved last year were short and fine, making a height of not over 18 inches, while others grew to a height of four and a half feet. This year the seed from the little fine parents produced small, fine plants of about the same height as the parent, while the seed from the plants which made a growth of four and a half feet last year produced the same sort of plants in three and one half months this year. There was also a great difference in the time of maturity of the progeny of the different parents. Some rows were in full blossom and setting seed inside of three months. One in particular did this and also made a very satisfactory growth in height, measuring over three feet. Others did not begin to blossom in four months, but all of them showed the distinctive annual character, forming no crown for continuing life next year, and with a root system showing none of the soft, spongy, fleshy characteristics of the biennial.

I have had quite a number of letters from various parts of the country asking for seed. We, of course, have so little that I believe the best ends will be secured by multiplying it as fast as we can here for another year, when I will be very glad to send you some of the seed.

I have just written a letter to one man refusing him seed at the present time, in spite of the fact that he offered to pay for them at the rate of \$9,125,000 per bushel. He offered to pay for them at that rate if I would send him a dozen seeds, I don't know how many dozens he would have been willing to take if we had been willing to spare them. I think you will agree with me that with this small amount of seed we have, the thing to do is to multiply for a year at least, before distributing at all. Very truly yours,

Farm Crops Department, Iowa State College.

Special Bargain Bulb Offers

Special \$1.50 Collection of Hardy Bulbs

These are all hardy bulbs to be planted in open ground September to December, and blooming in March, April and May. Nothing makes so fine a showing in a garden as a bed of early hardy bulbs and few people realize how cheap they are, and how easily grown. In order to get more people started growing them, I have made up this special collection at almost cost price:

- 2 White Hyacinths.
- 2 Red Hyacinths.
- 2 Blue Hyacinths.
- 6 Hardy Narcissus or Daffodils.
- 6 Tulips.
- 6 Early Double Tulips.
- 6 Parrot Tulips.
- 6 Darwin Tulips.
- 6 Crocus.
- 2 Narcissus (Von Sion).
- 2 Narcissus (Emperor).
- 2 Narcissus (Barri Conspicuous).
- 6 Spanish Iris.

All the above for \$1.50 postpaid

Special \$1.40 Collection of Bulbs.

To be planted in flower pots from September to December and blooming from December to April.

- 2 White Hyacinths, early very fragrant.
- 2 Red Hyacinths, best variety for house
- 2 Blue Hyacinths, best variety for house
- 1 Chinese Sacred Lily, will bloom in water
- 1 Double Sacred Lily, same as above
- 1 Calla Lily, large everblooming.
- 6 Tulips, bright colored, early variety.
- 6 Paper White Narcissus, very early
- 6 Freesias, Giant White.
- 6 Daffodils, mixed varieties.
- 1 Narcissus, Von Sion, very large
- 1 Narcissus, Emperor, largest variety
- 6 Crocus, large size, mixed colors.
- 3 Jonquils, yellow, very fragrant.

This entire collection, worth at list price over \$2.00, sent postpaid for \$1.40.

Special School Yard Tulip Collection, \$1.60

For planting on school grounds there is nothing equal to tulips. They are sure to grow and bloom, the children go wild over them, and they bloom before school is out in the spring. The trouble with most flowers for school gardens is that they bloom in vacation, but the tulips bloom in April or May when school is still in session. (Planted in the fall during the fall term).

I have made up a special collection of tulips at a very low price, especially suited to school needs. Here it is: 50 Tulips, Fine Single Mixed, 25 Tulips, Parrot Mixed.

All for \$1.60, delivered postpaid. This is a special offer for schools only.

Peonies.

Peonies can be set either in fall or early spring, but fall is best. See big catalog for full list.

Mixed Narcissus or Daffodils—All varieties and colors. Price, 30c doz. 25 for 60c, \$2.25 per 100

Mixed Bedding Hyacinths

An extra good mixture, good-sized bulbs and good colors, all sound bulbs and guaranteed to bloom, with ordinary care.

They are fine for house culture, but specially intended for bedding out, and at our low prices can be planted in large lots.

They can be had either in mixture or in separate colors as follows, white, bluish white, red, pink, deep blue, light blue.

PRICES: 8c each, 6 for 45c, 85c per dozen, 25 for \$1.60, or 100 for \$6.00, either all alike or assorted to suit.

Special Offer Mixed Bedding Hyacinths

Good-sized sound bulbs, all colors mixed, 6 for 35c, 12 for 65c, 25 for \$1.25, 100 for \$4.75.

Dutch Roman Hyacinths, all colors mixed, 5c each, 6 for 25c, 12 for 50c, 25 for \$1.00, 100 for \$3.75. All or any of the above postpaid.

Dutch Roman or Miniature Hyacinths

A smaller and earlier variety of regular Dutch hyacinths. I like them really better in some ways than the larger ones. They are specially fine to plant in flower pots, three bulbs to a five inch pot. They come into bloom after the French Romans are gone and before the regular Dutch bedding hyacinths are ready. I had a constant show of these in my office all winter from bulbs planted in October and brought up from the cellar a few at a time, as I wanted them to bloom. These can be furnished in any color, either all alike or assorted as follows: Pink, red, white, light blue, yellow.

PRICE: 6c each, 6 for 30c, 12 for 60c, 25 for \$1.15, 100 for \$4.50, either all alike or assorted to suit. See special offer for mixed all colors.

Miscellaneous Bulbs.

Crocus—Either separate colors or mixed. Price, 20c per dozen, 25 for 40c, \$1.50 per 100.

Freesias—Price, each 4c, 3 for 10c, 30c per dozen.

Spanish Iris—A bulbous, hardy iris that should be planted in the fall like tulips. Colors very bright. Price, each 3c, 35c per dozen.

Calla Lily—One of the most popular and ornamental house lilies. Price, each 25c.

Snowdrop—Dainty little white flowers blooming very early. Price, each 2c, 20c per dozen.

Easter Lily—The well-known house-blooming lily; flowers long, tubular in shape, and of a most delightful fragrance, large bulbs. Price, each 20c, 3 for 50c.

For Full List of Bulbs.

This is just a condensed list of the bulbs we have for sale. We have all kinds of bulbs—anything you want, and sell them at reasonable prices.

Special Offer on Hyacinth Bulbs.

In the September Seed Sense I forgot to list the mixed hyacinths, the bedding hyacinths, and the Dutch Roman hyacinths. I got the named sorts in all right, but forgot the other grades. I am making a special offer of them here. H. F.



Wholesale Net Prices For Nov. 1917

Good to Nov. 20 1917. (Subject to stock unsold)

On Clover, Alfalfa, and Other Grass and Field Seeds Which Fluctuate in Price

Address All Orders to Henry Field Seed Co., Shenandoah, Iowa

From Iowa and proud of it

These prices will only hold good till Nov. 20, 1917, and subject to stock being unsold. If you do not get your order made before that date write in for latest prices, as promptly on that date we will start filling orders at the prevailing prices, which will most certainly be higher on some items.

HENRY FIELD SEED CO.

Clover (60 lbs. per bu)	Per bu.	Blue Grass (14 lbs. per bu.)	Per lb.
Medium or Common Red	\$ 17 00	Kentucky	.28
Mammoth Red	17 00	English	.20
Alsike	15 00	Red Top, fancy solid seed	.16
White	Per lb. 60c	Bermuda Grass	.50
Timothy (45 lbs. per bu.)		Grass Seed Mixtures	Per lb.
Home grown	4 00	Permanent Meadow Mix	.13
Timothy and Clover Mixed (45 lbs. per bu.)		Permanent Pasture Mix	.13
Timothy-Alsike Mixture	4 50	Lowland Pasture Mix	.13
Timothy-Red Clover Mixture	5 85	Quick Action Hog Pasture	.06
Alfalfa (60 lbs. per bu.) All non-irrigated.		Lawn Grass Mixture	.30
Poor But Honest	\$ 9.00	Timothy Alsike Mixture	.10
Kansas-Nebraska	13 00	Timothy-Red Clover Mixture	.13
Dakota grown	14 00	Rye, Winter, per bu.	\$3.00
Montana grown	15 00	Wheat, Winter (Ask for prices)	
Grimm type (Dakota or Colorado grown) per lb. 50c		Sudan Grass, per lb	.20
Baltic (Dakota grown) per lb. 50c		Winter Onion Sets	
Sweet Clover (60 lbs. per bu)	Per lb	Small amounts by mail postpaid per lb.	.25
White Biennial (Hulled and Scarified)	.25	Larger lots by express15
Yellow (Hulled and Scarified)	.20	Rape Imported, Dwarf Essex Variety	.15
White Biennial (Unhulled)	.15	Vetch, True Winter, per lb.	.22
Orchard Grass	.25		
Brome Grass	.15		

These Are Wholesale Prices

Good for amounts of 10 pounds or over of a kind.
Add 2c per lb. for amounts of 5 to 10 pounds.
Add 5c per lb. for amounts below 5 pounds.

Unusual Shortage of Timothy and Clover Seed In Corn Belt

I don't suppose there has ever been a time in history of Iowa when timothy and clover seed were so short a crop as now. Certainly not since I have been in the seed business and that's quite some time now.

You know how it is around here. Well, its the same everywhere in the cornbelt so far as I can find out. I've been writing hundreds of letters lately to farmers all over the country who generally have seed to sell, and the replies are all the same. No seed—all winter killed—will have to ship in seed—grasshoppers killing the new seeding of clover—old seed all out of the country—local dealers asking \$5.00 for timothy—etc., etc.

Fortunately for us and you who have to buy seed we saw this coming way last spring, early. Back in March we got a hunch that the clover and timothy and alfalfa were all killed out and commenced to quietly gather up seed. We took nothing but extra good seed, but we bought all that we could find of that kind. We had the money to pay cash, and we got the seed before the other fellows knew there was any danger of a shortage.

The result of it is that we now have a good supply of fancy clover and timothy and alfalfa seed, as staple as gold dollars, and bought at last year's price.

Yes, it will make us some profit. That's why we bought it.

But just for the fun of it, we are going to divide the profit with you. We can sell below present values and still make profit enough. For instance Timothy is really worth now about \$5.00 per bu. We are selling at \$4.00. Clover is worth \$18.00 and we are selling at \$17.00. ALFALFA at \$13.00 a bushel, with a second grade at \$9.00.

Just as I predicted, clover has advanced \$4 per bushel in the last four months and I believe it will go up \$4.00 more before spring. It can't help it.

Now I can't say how long these prices will last. My advice would be to buy now while you are sure of these prices. Even if you are not ready to use the seed, buy it, put it away, and forget it. You'll never buy it any cheaper nor any better seed. Any of it can be returned at any time if not entirely satisfactory.

But if you have to pay \$7.00 for timothy and \$20.00 for clover next spring, don't say I didn't warn you in time. This seed will be all sold long before that and when I have to pay present prices for more seed I will sure charge more.

Henry Field.

These prices, especially on clover seed, are subject to seed being unsold on receipt of your order. It's going fast already.

To **HENRY FIELD SEED CO.** Shenandoah, Iowa

Date.....

Name

Postoffice..... State.....

County Rt. No. Box Street and Number

R. R. Station County State
(Name of town if different from P. O.)

What Railroad? What Express Co.?

Mark in Square Which Way (Into Your Town) Mail or Parcel Post ☐ Express ☐ Freight ☐ Whatever Way Best ☐

You Want Order Sent

In Case Price Is Wrong Or Price Has Changed:—

Shall we fill the exact amount ordered and adjust the price later? Or shall we fill for exactly the amount of money sent? If out of variety ordered have we your permission to substitute equal or better in the nearest we can supply?

Please Answer Above Information Each Time You Order

Your Money's Worth Or Your Money Back.—It is mutually agreed and understood that any seeds or other goods ordered of us may be returned at any time within ten days after receipt if not satisfactory and money paid for them will be refunded, but we do not and cannot in any way warrant the stand or the crop, as they depend on so many conditions beyond our control.

Henry Field Seed Co.

Henry Field Seed Co.

Total Amount of Order	\$	c
Paid in		
P. O. Money Order		
Express Money Order		
Draft		
Check		
We like checks		
Currency		
Silver		
Paid in Stamps		
Total Amount Paid		

Please don't write in this space